

Application No.: 10/686,021

Docket No.: P5630.0000/P023-A

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. - 7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) A method of using a fastener comprising:

providing a fastener having a shank, a head, a tapered section, a first threaded section and a second threaded section, said first threaded section being closer to said tapered section and said second threaded section being closer to said head, said first threaded section having a first thread angle and said second threaded section having a second thread angle smaller than said first thread angle, said first threaded section having threads having a first pitch and said second threaded section having threads having a second pitch different from said first pitch;

engaging said tapered segment of said fastener with a remnant-producing material;

rotating said fastener in the direction of said threads of the first threaded section thereby inserting said fastener into said remnant-producing material and producing remnants from said remnant-producing material;

rotating said fastener in the direction of said threads of the first threaded section after said second threaded section becomes engaged with said remnant-producing material thereby causing said second threaded section to capture said produced remnants; and

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rotating said fastener until said head engages with said remnant-producing material.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A method of clamping two structures together with a fastener, comprising:

providing a fastener having a shank, a head, a first threaded section and a second threaded section, said first threaded section being closer to said tapered section and said second threaded section being closer to said head, a neck section having no threads connecting said second threaded section and said head, said first threaded section having threads having a first pitch and said second threaded section having threads having a second pitch different from said first pitch;

engaging said first threaded section of said fastener with an alternative lumber material [[first structure]];

rotating said fastener in the direction of the threads of said first threaded section to insert said fastener into said alternative lumber material [[first structure]];

rotating said fastener in the direction of said threads of the first threaded section after said second threaded section becomes engaged with said alternative lumber material [[first structure]] and said first threaded section becomes engaged with [[said]] a second structure; and

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rotating said fastener until said head engages with said alternative lumber material [[first structure]], wherein upon engagement of said head with said alternative lumber material [[first structure]] said first threaded section is completely within said second structure.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein upon said engagement of said head in said first structure, one end of said first threaded section is proximate to a pair of mating surfaces of said two structures.

13. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said first structure is formed of remnant-producing material, said first threaded section producing remnants from said remnant-producing material and said second threaded section capturing said produced remnants.

14. (New) A method of using a fastener in an alternative lumber material, the method comprising:

providing a fastener having a shank, a head, a tapered section, a first threaded section and a second threaded section, said first threaded section being closer to said tapered section and said second threaded section being closer to said head, said first threaded section having a first thread angle and said second threaded section having a second thread angle smaller than said first thread angle, said first threaded section having threads having a first pitch and said second threaded section having threads having a second pitch different from said first pitch;

engaging said tapered segment of said fastener with an alternative lumber material;

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rotating said fastener in the direction of said threads of the first threaded section thereby inserting said fastener into said alternative lumber material and producing remnants from said alternative lumber material;

rotating said fastener in the direction of said threads of the first threaded section after said second threaded section becomes engaged with said alternative lumber material thereby causing said second threaded section to capture said produced remnants; and

rotating said fastener until said head engages with said alternative lumber material.